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Front cover by Loren Weyerman; desert plants on page 2 by Luis Valdez; butterfly on page 2 by Dominic Hernandez; desert plants on page 3 by Michael Lunsford; cave scene on page 5 by Erin Wittman; bird (left) on page 6 by Sheri Moore; bird (center) on page 6 by Loren Weyerman; bird (right) on page 6 by Barbara Speed; bird (top right) on page 7 by Jamie Lucas; bird (center left) on page 7 by Joe Olivas Jr.; bird (lower right) on page 7 by William Weldy

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Frog system on page 4 by Ernesto Larez; Temple of the Sun on page 4 by Ernesto Larez; natural entrance on page 6 by Marina Calderon; all other photographs by Wendy Krasnauskas

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Animal Word Scramble by Sheri Moore

1. tabs _____
2. nskae _____
3. cboatb _____
4. dzarli _____
5. lesturt _____
6. fgsro _____
7. stoad _____
8. qlerrius _____
9. bitrab _____
10. nkkus _____

Answers on page 7



Lechuguilla

Desert Plants

The Lechuguilla is the indicator plant of the Chihuahuan Desert. It is small but dangerous. It grows a large stalk and then dies. It is part of the agave family. It uses photosynthesis to make food. The native peoples bake the hearts for food and pulverized the leaves for fiber.

By Jacob Lambright

The Creosote bush is a very good desert plant. It is often seen spread out all by itself. That's because its roots give off a poison that stops other roots growing near it. That way the Creosote bush gets all the water nearby. The Creosote bush blooms from March-November. The blooms are small, 5 pedaled, yellow flowers.

The fruit on the flowers are small, white, hairy, capsules. The Creosote bush gives off a scent that reminds some people of water, fresh water. So if you smell water nearby, it might just be a creosote bush.

By Laura Powers

Cactus

Has spiny joints

Opuntia Fulgida is its scientific name

Lives in the Chihuahuan Desert

Lots of red flowers

Also found in Arizona

By Luis Valdez



The fruit of the Banana Yucca is shaped like a banana and edible. When cooked, it tastes somewhat like a sweet potato.

The Yucca has beautiful white flowers that bloom during the summer. These flowers rely on Yucca Moths to pollinate. This process is called symbiosis. Symbiosis is when two organisms depend on each other for survival. In return, the moth lays her eggs on the flower, and the seeds provide food for the caterpillars.

The Yucca drops its seeds all around itself. The baby plants are called pups. This process goes on in cycles. The Yucca may live several years before it blooms.

By Amanda Lambright

Learning About Caves and Caving

How Cavers Get In and Out of Caves *by Peter Ortel*

How cavers get in to the caves. First they get all their rappelling stuff on. After they secured all of the equipment they can rappel down in to the cave. How they rappel down is they tie the rope to a boulder or a tree. When they are done and they need to get back up on the surface they can use a lot of different systems three of them are: prussic, rope walker, and the frog. So after they pick their system and go up out of the cave.



There are three different techniques, but this one is the frog technique. Tom Bemis said, “It’s the easiest” to him. The frog technique is like frog hopping up a rope. It has a handle and pulleys. The pulleys help him/her stay up and slide down the rope.

By Joshua Mares

The Temple of the Sun *by Ernesto Larez*

What you see in this picture is a column. A column is when a stalactite and a stalagmite meet. This is what inspired the directors of Atlantis The Lost Empire. And then they made the game. So when you see the caverns think about this picture.

Rules of When You Are In a Cave *by Kathy Ann McDonald*

- 1) Stay with your team
- 2) Don’t go off the trail
- 3) You should not touch anything because the formation could break real easy
- 4) You should not make any noise when you are in a cave
- 5) You should not touch any animal that you see because they could bite
- 6) You should not kick the rocks
- 7) You should not run in the caves
- 8) You should not play with the formation in the caves
- 9) You should not break the formation in the caves



Word Puzzle

4 2 19 13 20 3 2 5

4 2 23 6 19 15 20

15 2 21 10 16 15 2 13

17 2 19 12



KEY

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 1

By Joey Orona

Answer on page 7



Rules of Three for Caving by Barbara Speed

Rule One: Tell three people where you are going, when you'll be back.

Rule Two: Take three sources of light, like lanterns and flashlights.

Rule Three: Go with three people and people who are experts.

How the Lion's Tail Was Formed by Peter Ortegell

The lion's tail is formed by a stalactite hanging where a lot of popcorn is forming so popcorn starts to form on it. The reason why the popcorn can only grow at the bottom is the popcorn can only grow in places where it is cool and how that works is the entrance to the cave is so big it is always warm air to rise and leave and allows the cool air to come in to the cave at the bottom.



Learning About Birds

We were at the Carlsbad Caverns to learn about birds. We went into this room that showed slides of birds. It explained what kind of bird it is, what does it weigh. Our guide was Ranger Stacey. She took us in the room to show and learn different kinds of birds. We went outside to go look for birds. Then we got to the cave there we saw cave swallows at the twilight zone.



There were nests all over the cave. The holes are cave swallows nests. Cave swallows live in the twilight zone of the Carlsbad Caverns. Their nests are shaped like cups. They lay 2 or 3 eggs in June. The cave swallows have to go around in circles to get higher to fly out of cave. They build their nest out of mud. They eat insects that fly around the cave such as butterflies, tarantula hawk wasps. We saw a cave swallow trying to catch a tarantula hawk wasp. When the bats come out the cave swallow usually stop flying when they don't stop flying the bats usually when the bats are out they don't bother the cave swallows.

By Veronica Hernandez



This is Marina. We were studying birds on this day. We would get our own beaks. I got tweezers. We would get some snacks. It would be like a contest. Whoever got all their snacks in the cup first would win. After that we would get to eat the snacks. The final contest was a cup of juice. We had to get the juice in our mouth. I had tweezers. We couldn't use our hands. That made it difficult. I didn't know what to do. Finally I found a way. I would lift the cup up with my tweezers. I would drink it normal. It worked! I came in second.

By Marina Calderon



ParKids Create Their Own Birds

Peloctodactal by Jamie Lucas

Long beak: for digging and getting worms
 Short feet talons: for running fast
 Bright colors: for attracting females
 Environment: moist and muddy areas

Fun Facts:

- 1) It can't fly
- 2) It can run up to 30mph
- 3) It is commonly known as Fred
- 4) When it finds a mate the feathers on its head go up and turn bright green



Goppler by Joe Olivas Jr.

The Goppler is an insect eater.
 Its favorite food is ants.
 Its talons are used to grab little insects.

The Grimmer can not fly but he can swim fast. With its big webbed feet. It can also dig with its beak to find snails. So he lives by water.
 By William Weldy



Answers to Animal Word Scramble (page 2):

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| 1. Bats | 6. Frog |
| 2. Snake | 7. Toad |
| 3. Bobcat | 8. Squirrel |
| 4. Lizard | 9. Rabbit |
| 5. Turtle | 10. Skunk |

Answer to Word Puzzle (page 5):

CARLSBAD
 CAVERNS
 NATIONAL
 PARK

Start/Finish



Identified some plants move ahead 3

Rest room



materials

1. a penny
2. an object for your person

Rule 5

1. Drop the penny heads-1 tails-2
2. move forward
3. If the square says something, do it



need a potty break go back to the restroom

Stopped someone from falling go ahead 3

need water go back 3

got lost move back 2

Juniper black path miss turn

Visitor Center

heat stroke go to visitor center

Laura Powers